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*DAILY*  
**CONVERSATIONS  
IN CHINESE  
MEDIA**



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**ORGANISATION FOR RESEARCH ON  
CHINA AND ASIA**

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## I. Social Media Chatter in China

- **Billionaire's son banned from Weibo:** Famous internet personality Wang Sicong, the son of Dalian Wanda tycoon Wang Jianlin, was banned for life on Weibo. Wang had doubts about the Chinese traditional medicine formula 'Lianhua Qingwen', which is currently being distributed across China to treat COVID-19, and posted it on Weibo. Wang had also called for the formula makers, Yiling Pharmaceutical, to be investigated and had also been critical of the Shanghai lockdowns. There are also rumors of Wang being arrested by the Shanghai police "for picking quarrels and stirring up trouble".

## II. News in China

- China has successfully launched two satellites, 'Siwei 01' and 'Siwei 02', from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center. The satellites were launched from the Long March-2C carrier rocket. They will be used for commercial remote sensing data services like surveying, mapping, urban security, and digital rural development.
- On April 29th, The State Council Information Office held a conference on 'dynamic clearing' as an efficient way for epidemic prevention and control. Li Bin, deputy director of the National Health Commission, insisted that 'dynamic clearing' is not 'zero COVID' and according to the changes in the virus, the prevention and control measures are continuously optimized and upgraded.
- Shanghai added 5487 new confirmed cases and 9545 asymptomatic infections on April 28th. Fifty-eight new local deaths were reported. Fifty-two patients had underlying diseases when they were admitted.
- Bilateral trade between China and the European Union (EU) rose by 12.21% in the first quarter. Bilateral trade in mechanical and electrical products, light industrial goods, and high-tech products increased. Gao Feng, the spokesperson for the Ministry of Commerce, said that the two economies are highly complementary, and bilateral cooperation is beneficial to both sides and the world economy. China is also ready to work with the EU to stabilize the industrial and supply chains and epidemic prevention.
- Li Zhanshu, chairman of the National People's Standing Committee (NPC), held virtual talks with Masud Gharahkhani, president of the Norwegian parliament. Topics discussed were the development of bilateral relations, cooperation in green development, people-to-people cooperation, exchanges and mutual learning in public health, education, and fostering a transparent law environment.
- China and nine Caribbean countries that have diplomatic relations with China have planned a foreign ministers' meeting. Topics planned to be discussed- in-depth exchange of views on China-Caribbean relations, common issues. Wang Yi, Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister, will co-chair the meeting with Dominican

Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit.

- A six-storey building in Changsha collapsed with people trapped in it. The building housed a restaurant, guesthouse, and a cinema. A large cloud of dust could be seen after the collapse, with debris scattered where the building had stood. According to Chinese state media, no casualties have been reported, and rescue operations for trapped people were underway.

## India Watch

- India has approved the opening of a new Indian mission in Lithuania. Lithuania faced a trade embargo by Beijing after it refused to support the One-China policy and allowed Taiwan to open a representative office. The new Indian mission will help facilitate trade and expand India's diplomatic footprint and marks a telling move by India vis-a-vis its China-Taiwan balance.
- In a surprising move, China has allowed the return of some Indian students. According to a notice by the Indian Embassy, China expressed willingness to allow students to attend following the meeting of the External Affairs Minister of India, Dr. S. Jaishankar, with the State Councilor and Foreign Minister of China, Wang Yi, on 25th March 2022. However, the return of students will be decided after consulting with the relevant Chinese departments.